

TOWN OF ARLINGTON



Cemetery Commission

Date: December 9, 2020
Time: 9:03am
Location: The meeting is conducted by Remote Participation via
Teleconference Phone # 1-701-802-5302
Access Code: 5196144

This meeting will follow guidelines described by the Massachusetts Executive Order on Remote Participation. For further information refer to:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Minutes

Attendance: Commissioners Michele Hassler, Bill McCarthy, Brian Hasbrouck, DPW Director, Mike Rademacher, DPW Op. Mgr., Dan Warren, Cemetery Supervisor, Jason Jones

1. Minutes approved for November 9, 2020
2. Deeds will be signed by appointment
3. CPA updates on OBG; Michele reported that all work is done except capstone by entranceway by library. Stone has been ordered for that. The two (2) tomb areas over by the Unitarian Church were rebuilt. It is hoped that the next round of CPA grants can help with gate work and tomb door replacements as appropriate.
4. Bridge erosion; Mike reported that they are working on a FEMA grant that would restore the banks of the brook from Mystic Street to the bridge. The grant has made it through stage 1 with the 2nd round due December 11th. He is working with Emily Sullivan of the Conservation Commission.
5. Totten Way road work; Mike informed the commission that they hired a new engineer and the road and turn around by Henderson will be addressed.
6. Trees; Six (6) trees have been planted with another Nine (9) planned for the spring. Tree map is being updated. Tree dept. will be doing stumps.

7. The commission voted to require vaults for full earth burials. Jason initially addressed the commissioners in November re: concerns for the health and safety of the cemetery/grounds staff re: the required manpower that is involved with the placement of any 2-piece cover system for earth burials. He stated many other cemeteries require 1 piece covers/vaults only which would allow the vault company to be present to place the covers on, thus ensuring the cover is placed properly and without safety/health concerns for the limited cemetery staff we currently have available. Jason asked us to consider the same measure for Mt. Pleasant. The cost difference for such systems was reviewed and Bill put forth a motion to require 1 piece cover vault containers only for earth burials. The commission voted 2-1, with Brian voting against. Jean will send a letter to the funeral directors and the vault company notifying them of the new policy.
8. After some confusion was clarified regarding the Wreaths Across America ceremony, it will proceed on Saturday, December 19, 2020. Wreaths will be placed at all Veteran sections and a remembrance tree will be placed by the GWOT monument in the HH section. Venue of the ceremony for next year, should it be held, will be discussed and possible alternate locations will be suggested.

Monthly numbers were reviewed
Next meeting will be January 13, 2021

Respectfully submitted
Jean Smith

Board of Cemetery Commissioners
Michele A. Hassler, Chairperson
William F. McCarthy
Brian L. Hasbrouck